

Message Text

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51

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DLOS-07 EB-12 COME-00 INT-08 IO-14

INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 FEAE-00 SCI-06 EPA-04 CEQ-02 ACDA-19 CG-00

DOT-00 FMC-04 OMB-01 COA-02 AGR-20 JUSE-00 CIEP-03

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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4309

INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL MADRAS IMMEDIATE

CINCPAC

COMIDEASTFOR

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 13309

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN PLOS IN

SUBJECT: US TANKER TRANS HURON

1. THE TEXT OF THE AIDE MEMOIRE ON THE TRANS HURON WHICH
WAS PRESENTED TO THE CHARGE ON OCTOBER 4 IS AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE THE AMERICAN OIL TANKER 'TRANS HURON' RAN AGROUND
ON 26 SEPTEMBER, 1974 NORTH OF KILTAN ISLAND IN THE
LAKSHADWEEP AND MINICOY ISLAND GROUP. ITS ALMOST
ENTIRE CARGO OF 20,000 TONS OF FURNACE OIL HAS LEAKED
OUT AND SPREAD THREE MILES SOUTH OF THE ISLAND. IT IS
APPREHENDED THAT THE SPREAD OF OIL WILL HAVE A DESTRUCTIVE
EFFECT ON MARINE FISHERIES AS WELL AS THE ENTIRE
COASTLINE CREATING SERIOUS PROBLEMS FOR THE FISHING
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CRAFT AND PEOPLE LIVING ALONG THE COAST.

A NOTICE HAS BEEN SERVED BY THE ENGINEER AND SHIP SURVEYOR, MERCANTILE MARINE DEPARTMENT, COCHIN ON THE MASTER OF THE U.S. VESSEL AND ITS LOCAL AGENTS AT COCHIN TO TAKE APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO PREVENT THE SPILLAGE OF OIL FROM THE GROUNDED TANKER INTO THE SEA AND FOR ITS REMOVAL FROM THE SEA TO A SAFE PLACE ASHORE. A COPY OF THE NOTICE SERVED ON THE MASTER IS ENCLOSED.

THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS REQUEST THE U.S. EMBASSY TO TAKE NECESSARY PREVENTIVE AND REMEDIAL ACTION IN THE ABOVE MATTER. THE MINISTRY IS COLLECTING INFORMATION ABOUT THE LOSSES AND DAMAGES SUFFERED OR WHICH MAY ARISE AS A RESULT OF THESE SPILLAGES AND WILL REVERT TO THESE ASPECTS OF THE QUESTION LATER. UNQUOTE. END TEXT OF AIDE MEMOIRE.

2. THE TEXT OF THE ENCLOSURE IS AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE I AM DIRECTED TO STATE THAT THE GROUNDING OF AMERICAN TANKER 'TRANS HURON' BELONGING TO HUDSON WATERWAYS CORPORATION AND UNDER YOUR COMMAND AGENCY WITH CARGO OFOIL ON BOARD IS LIKELY TO:

(ONE) CAUSE DAMAGE TO THE COASTS AND BEACHES OFF THE KILTAN ISLAND AND THE WEST COAST OF INDIA AND CONSEQUENT HINDRANCE TO HEALTHFUL RECREATION AND INTERFERENCE WITH THE TOURIST INDUSTRY AND

(TWO) CAUSE THE DEATH AND DESTRUCTION OF BIRDS AND OTHER WILD LIVES WITH PROBABLE ADVERSE EFFECT ON FISH AND OTHER MARINE ORGANISMS ON WHICH THEY FEED

IF THE OIL IN CARGO AND FUEL TANKS OF THE GROUNDED TANKER OFF KILTAN ISLAND IS ALLOWED TO SPILL INTO THE SEA. SINCE PUBLIC INTERESTS DEMAND THAT THE DAMAGE TO THE ABOVE INTERESTS SHOULD BE PREVENTED AND FAILING WHICH MITIGATED AS FAR AS PRACTICABLE, I AM DIRECTED TO SERVE THIS NOTICE ON YOU CALLING UPON YOU TO TAKE ALL SUCH IMMEDIATE AND URGENT MEASURES AS MAY BE DEEMED APPROPRIATE TO PREVENT THE SPILLAGE OF OIL FROM THE GROUNDED

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TANKER INTO THE SEA AND FOR ITS REMOVAL FROM THE SEA TO A SAFE PLACE ASHORE. ANY FAILURE, WILFUL OR OTHERWISE, TO DO SO WILL MAKE YOU LIABLE FOR ALL DAMAGES THAT MAY BE SUFFERED BY THE RELATED INTERESTS REFERRED TO ABOVE. IT MAY FURTHER BE NOTED IF YOU FAIL TO TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION AS AFORESAID THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO TAKE SUCH MEASURES AS IT MAY THINK FIT AND YOU WILL BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL COSTS

INCURRED BY THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.
PLEASE ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT. UNQUOTE.SCHNEIDER

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